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in the case of subparts C and D, only to plans terminated by mass withdrawal under section 4041A(a)(2) of ERISA (including plans created by partition pursuant to section 4233 of ERISA).

§ 4041A.2 Definitions.

The following terms are defined in § 4001.1 of this chapter: annuity, ERISA, insurer, IRS, mass withdrawal, multi-employer plan, nonforfeitable benefit, PBGC, plan, and plan year.

In addition, for purposes of this part: *Available resources* means, for a plan year, available resources as described in section 4245(b)(3) of ERISA.

Benefits subject to reduction means those benefits accrued under plan amendments (or plans) adopted after March 26, 1980, or under collective bargaining agreements entered into after March 26, 1980, that are not eligible for the PBGC's guarantee under section 4022A(b) of ERISA.

Financial assistance means financial assistance from the PBGC under section 4261 of ERISA.

Insolvency benefit level means the greater of the resource benefit level or the benefit level guaranteed by the PBGC for each participant and beneficiary in pay status.

Insolvency year means insolvency year as described in section 4245(b)(4) of ERISA.

Insolvent means that a plan is unable to pay benefits when due during the plan year. A plan terminated by mass withdrawal is not insolvent unless it has been amended to eliminate all benefits that are subject to reduction under section 4281(c) of ERISA, or, in the absence of an amendment, no benefits under the plan are subject to reduction under section 4281(c) of ERISA.

Nonguaranteed benefits means those benefits that are eligible for the PBGC's guarantee under section 4022A(b) of ERISA, but exceed the guarantee limits under section 4022A(c).

Resource benefit level means resource benefit level as described in section 4245(b)(2) of ERISA.

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§ 4041A.3 Submission of documents.

(a) *Filing date.* Any notice, document, or information required to be filed with

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the PBGC under this part shall be deemed filed on the date of the postmark stamped on the cover in which the notice, document, or information is mailed, provided that the postmark was made by the United States Postal Service and the document was mailed postage prepaid, properly packaged and addressed to the PBGC. If these conditions are not met, the document is considered filed on the date it is received by the PBGC. Documents received after regular business hours are considered filed on the next regular business day.

(b) *Address.* Any notice, document, or information required to be filed with the PBGC under this part shall be sent by mail or submitted by hand during normal working hours to Reports Processing, Insurance Operations Department, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026.

Subpart B—Notice of Termination

§ 4041A.11 Requirement of notice.

(a) *General.* A Notice of Termination shall be filed with the PBGC by a multiemployer plan when the plan has terminated as described in section 4041A(a) of ERISA.

(b) *Who shall file.* The plan sponsor or a duly authorized representative acting on behalf of the plan sponsor shall sign and file the Notice.

(c) *When to file.* (1) For a termination pursuant to a plan amendment, the Notice shall be filed with the PBGC within thirty days after the amendment is adopted or effective, whichever is later.

(2) For a termination that results from a mass withdrawal, the Notice shall be filed with the PBGC within thirty days after the last employer withdrew from the plan or thirty days after the first day of the first plan year for which no employer contributions were required under the plan, whichever is earlier.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1212-0020)

§ 4041A.12 Contents of notice.

(a) *Information to be contained in notice.* Except to the extent provided in paragraph (d), each Notice shall contain:

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- (1) The name of the plan;
- (2) The name, address and telephone number of the plan sponsor and of the plan sponsor's duly authorized representative, if any;
- (3) The name, address, and telephone number of the person that will administer the plan after the date of termination, if other than the plan sponsor;
- (4) A copy of the plan's most recent Form 5500 (Annual Report Form), including schedules; and
- (5) The date of termination of the plan.

(b) *Information to be contained in a notice involving a mass withdrawal.* In addition to the information contained in paragraph (a) and except as provided in paragraph (d), the following information shall be contained in a Notice filed by a plan that has terminated by mass withdrawal:

- (1) A copy of the plan document in effect 5 years prior to the date of termination and copies of any amendments adopted after that date.
- (2) A copy (or copies) of the trust agreement (or agreements), if any, authorizing the plan sponsor to control and manage the operation and administration of the plan.
- (3) A copy of the most recent actuarial statement and opinion (if any) relating to the plan.
- (4) A statement of any material change in the assets or liabilities of the plan occurring after either the date of the actuarial statement referred to in item (5) or the date of the plan's Form 5500 submitted as part of the Notice.
- (5) Complete copies of any letters of determination issued by the IRS relating to the establishment of the plan, any letters of determination relating to the disqualification of the plan and any subsequent requalification, and any letters of determination relating to the termination of the plan.
- (6) A statement whether the plan assets will be sufficient to pay all benefits in pay status during the 12-month period following the date of termination.
- (7) If plan assets on hand are sufficient to satisfy all nonforfeitable benefits under the plan, and if the plan sponsor intends to distribute such assets, a brief description of the proposed method of distributing the plan assets.

- (8) If plan assets on hand are not sufficient to satisfy all nonforfeitable benefits under the plan, the name and address of any employer who contributed to the plan within 3 plan years prior to the date of termination.

(c) *Certification.* As part of the Notice, the plan sponsor or duly authorized representatives shall certify that all information and documents submitted pursuant to this section are true and correct to the best of the plan sponsor's or representative's knowledge and belief.

(d) *Avoiding duplication.* Information described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section need not be supplied if it duplicates information contained in Form 5500, or a schedule thereof, that a plan submits as part of the Notice.

(e) *Additional information.* In addition to the information described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, the PBGC may require the submission of any other information which the PBGC determines is necessary for review of a Notice of Termination.

Subpart C—Plan Sponsor Duties

§ 4041A.21 General rule.

The plan sponsor of a multiemployer plan that terminates by mass withdrawal shall continue to administer the plan in accordance with applicable statutory provisions, regulations, and plan provisions until a trustee is appointed under section 4042 of ERISA or until plan assets are distributed in accordance with subpart D of this part. In addition, the plan sponsor shall be responsible for the specific duties described in this subpart.

§ 4041A.22 Payment of benefits.

- (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the plan sponsor shall pay any benefit attributable to employer contributions, other than a death benefit, only in the form of an annuity.
- (b) The plan sponsor may pay a benefit in a form other than an annuity if—
 - (1) The plan distributes plan assets in accordance with subpart D of this part;
 - (2) The PBGC approves the payment of the benefit in an alternative form pursuant to § 4041A.27; or